

## The Priesthood – The Ministry of Christ & Christians

### Q1 – Why did Jesus become human?

To become a merciful and faithful \_\_\_\_\_ in service to God.

To \_\_\_\_\_ that would take away the sins of the people.

<sup>17</sup> Therefore, it was necessary for him to be made in every respect like us, his brothers and sisters, so that he could be our merciful and faithful High Priest before God. Then he could offer a sacrifice that would take away the sins of the people. Heb 2:17, NLT

### Q 2 – What were the Old Testament requirements by which people could be cleansed from their sins?

Once \_\_\_\_\_ the high priest would \_\_\_\_\_ himself and the nation of Israel from their \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>30</sup> On that day offerings of purification will be made for you, and you will be purified in the LORD's presence from all your sins. <sup>31</sup> It will be a Sabbath day of complete rest for you, and you must deny yourselves. This is a permanent law for you. <sup>32</sup> In future generations, the purification ceremony will be performed by the priest who has been anointed and ordained to serve as high priest in place of his ancestor Aaron. He will put on the holy linen garments <sup>33</sup> and purify the Most Holy Place, the Tabernacle, the altar, the priests, and the entire congregation. <sup>34</sup> This is a permanent law for you, to purify the people of Israel from their sins, making them right with the LORD once each year." Moses followed all these instructions exactly as the LORD had commanded him. Leviticus 16:30-34, NLT

Priests had to offer an animal sacrifice \_\_\_\_\_ they, a leader, or anyone else sinned.

<sup>27</sup> "If any of the common people sin by violating one of the LORD's commands, but they don't realize it, they are still guilty.

<sup>28</sup> When they become aware of their sin, they must bring as an offering for their sin a female goat with no defects. <sup>29</sup> They must lay a hand on the head of the sin offering and slaughter it at the place where burnt offerings are slaughtered. <sup>30</sup> Then the priest will dip his finger in the blood and put it on the horns of the altar for burnt offerings. He will pour out the rest of the blood at the base of the altar. <sup>31</sup> Then he must remove all the goat's fat, just as he does with the fat of the peace offering. He will burn the fat on the altar, and it will be a pleasing aroma to the LORD. Through this process, the priest will purify the people, making them right with the LORD, and they will be forgiven. Lev 4:27-31, NLT (See Leviticus chapter 4)

Only men from the \_\_\_\_\_ could serve as priests.

<sup>6</sup> I myself have selected your fellow Levites from among the Israelites as a gift to you, dedicated to the LORD to do the work at the tent of meeting. Numbers 17:6, NIV

### Q 3 – How can Jesus serve as High Priest if He is from the tribe of Judah, not the tribe of Levi?

Because \_\_\_\_\_ to become a High Priest after the order of \_\_\_\_\_, not the Levites.

<sup>10</sup> And God designated him to be a High Priest in the order of Melchizedek. Heb 5:10, NLT

### Q 4 – Who is Melchizedek?

He was a \_\_\_\_\_ of God who was also \_\_\_\_\_ of Salem.

He is like Jesus Christ because Scripture speaks of Melchizedek without \_\_\_\_\_ and without \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>1</sup> This Melchizedek was king of the city of Salem and also a priest of God Most High. When Abraham was returning home after winning a great battle against the kings, Melchizedek met him and blessed him. <sup>2</sup> Then Abraham took a tenth of all he had captured in battle and gave it to Melchizedek. The name Melchizedek means "king of justice," and king of Salem means "king of peace." <sup>3</sup> There is no record of his father or mother or any of his ancestors—no beginning or end to his life. He remains a priest forever, resembling the Son of God. Heb 7:1-3, NLT

### Q 5 – Why did God change the priesthood from the tribe of Levi and base it on one man named Melchizedek?

Because the Levitical priesthood could not provide \_\_\_\_\_ for people.

Because the Levitical priesthood was \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (unprofitable in Greek).

<sup>12</sup> And if the priesthood is changed, the law must also be changed to permit it. <sup>13</sup> For the priest we are talking about belongs to a different tribe, whose members have never served at the altar as priests. <sup>14</sup> What I mean is, our Lord came from the tribe of Judah, and Moses never mentioned priests coming from that tribe. <sup>15</sup> This change has been made very clear since a different priest, who is like Melchizedek, has appeared. <sup>16</sup> Jesus became a priest, not by meeting the physical requirement of belonging to the tribe of Levi, but by the power of a life that cannot be destroyed. <sup>17</sup> And the psalmist pointed this out when

he prophesied, "You are a priest forever in the order of Melchizedek." <sup>18</sup> Yes, the old requirement about the priesthood was set aside because it was weak and useless. <sup>19</sup> For the law never made anything perfect. But now we have confidence in a better hope, through which we draw near to God. Heb 7:11-19, NLT

### Q 6 – Why is Jesus' priesthood better than the Levitical priesthood? It is because . . .

The old priesthood had \_\_\_\_\_ priests who \_\_\_\_\_, but the new priesthood has \_\_\_\_\_ priest who \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>23</sup> There were many priests under the old system, for death prevented them from remaining in office. <sup>24</sup> But because Jesus lives forever, his priesthood lasts forever. <sup>25</sup> Therefore he is able, once and forever, to save those who come to God through him. He lives forever to intercede with God on their behalf. Heb 7:23-25, NLT (Also see 1 John 2:1)

The former priests offered a sacrifice for \_\_\_\_\_, whereas the new priest Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>26</sup> He is the kind of high priest we need because he is holy and blameless, unstained by sin. He has been set apart from sinners and has been given the highest place of honor in heaven. <sup>27</sup> Unlike those other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices every day. They did this for their own sins first and then for the sins of the people. But Jesus did this once for all when he offered himself as the sacrifice for the people's sins. Heb 7:26-27, NLT

The former priests entered a \_\_\_\_\_ tent to offer animal sacrifices that \_\_\_\_\_ permanently take away sin, but Jesus entered \_\_\_\_\_ and offered His own blood, which sets us free from sin \_\_\_\_\_.

For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Heb 10:4, ESV

<sup>11</sup> But when Christ came as the high priest of the good things we now have, he entered the greater and more perfect tent. It is not made by humans and does not belong to this world. <sup>12</sup> Christ entered the Most Holy Place only once—and for all time. He did not take with him the blood of goats and calves. His sacrifice was his own blood, and by it he set us free from sin forever. Hebrews 9:11-12, NCV

The Old Testament priests \_\_\_\_\_ offering animal sacrifices, but Jesus offered Himself as one sacrifice and then \_\_\_\_\_ a God's right hand.

After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. Heb 1:3, NIV

<sup>11</sup> Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. <sup>12</sup> But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, <sup>13</sup> and since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool. <sup>14</sup> For by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy. Heb 10:11-14, NIV

### Q 7 – How should I respond to the fact that Jesus is our High Priest who has ascended into heaven?

\_\_\_\_\_ Jesus as my High Priest.

Therefore, holy brothers and sisters, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, whom we acknowledge as our apostle and high priest. Hebrews 3:1, NIV

\_\_\_\_\_ the faith I confess.

<sup>14</sup> Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. Heb 4:14, ESV

\_\_\_\_\_ God when I am tempted to sin.

<sup>14</sup> Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. <sup>15</sup> For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. <sup>16</sup> Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Heb 4:15-16, ESV

Serve God as \_\_\_\_\_ by telling people of His \_\_\_\_\_, specifically, the \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>5</sup> To the one who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup> who made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father—to him be glory and power forever and always. Amen. Rev 1:5-6, CEB

But you are a chosen people, royal priests, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession. You were chosen to tell about the wonderful acts of God, who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. 1 Pet 2:9, NCV

I serve as a priest by spreading the Good News of God. I do this in order that I might bring the nations to God as an acceptable offering, made holy by the Holy Spirit. Rom 15:16,